Urban District of
PORTSLADE-BY-SEA

REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1930

by

N. E. CHADWICK, O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.
Telephone [illegible]

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N. E. CHADWICK, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

A. DONALD, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Urban District of Portslade-by-Sea.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1960.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1960 compiled in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, to which I have added a foreword on matters of special interest and importance.

Vital Statistics.

Provisional figures just issued in connection with the Census taken on April 23rd, 1961, show that Portslade's resident population on that date was 15,750, an increase of 2,176 since the last enumeration in 1951—a rise of 16%. Portslade has therefore developed four times as much as both Brighton and Hove in that period and about half as much as Shoreham. Broadly speaking the inland towns in East Sussex have increased their population to a much higher degree than the seaside resorts.

There has been a slight rise in both the number of births and the number of deaths which is reflected in the corresponding rates. The main causes of the latter were those common to a community with a high proportion of old people. Cancer and Diseases of the Heart and Circulation. The Births normally exceed the Deaths by about a third so that the increase in population referred to above must in the main result from the migration of new families into the town especially in the Mile Oak area.

There were 4 Infant Deaths as against 3 last year—all from causes not preventable or susceptible to treatment in the present state of our knowledge. There were no deaths from Measles, Whooping Cough or Diphtheria but unfortunately for the first time for many years a Maternal Death occurred as the result of pregnancy. A thorough investigation including a post mortem revealed that there was nothing in her ante-natal supervision or in the treatment of her delivery which could have anticipated the haemorrhage from which she died.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

The Ministry of Health increased the full course to 3 infections and by the 31st December, 3249 persons had received the full protection. A fourth dose for all children between the ages of 5 and 12 years is now advocated and it is anticipated that by the beginning of the summer holidays all children in Portslade who are eligible will have received the additional dose, or at least been given an opportunity to do so.

At the same time we have been able to devote an increased amount of time to bringing up to date the immunity state of children who had received a primary course of protection against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough in previous years as well as providing an initial course for some 275 between the ages of 0-14 years.

Slum Clearance.

As mentioned in last year's report, the first five year programme under this heading was completed in 1958 but since that time the Ministry of Housing and Local Government has called for a further review and for the next quinquennial period it is anticipated that some further 65 houses will require to be demolished.

Smoke Abatement.

The Joint Committee of which Portslade is a constituent member, concentrated its main efforts during 1960 on reducing the nuisance caused by the deposit of crude coal and coke dust in the areas adjacent to the harbour and with that end in view paid visits to the Gas and Electricity Undertakings and had discussions with the Officers. The general consensus of opinion was that all that could be done was being done to keep to a minimum the dissemination of dust in the area and the general additional measures suggested, even if their cost was not prohibitive, would not effect any improvement. Though these dumps are the most obvious source of supply there are others, including those emanating from lorries using the Kingsway which contribute their quota although this is to some extent obviated when their loads are covered.

Old People.

Supervision and advice and on occasion assistance towards admission to a County Welfare Home or Hospital are provided by the two Geriatric Health Visitors on my staff. There was 1 case of compulsory removal under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

General.

My thanks are, as in all previous years, due to the Clerk and the Surveyor for their unfailing assistance and advice whenever it has been asked for and also particularly to the Public Health Inspector, Mr. Donald, whose co-operation and conscientious service at all times has relieved me of any anxiety about the ordinary routine of the public health services.

I am most appreciative of the support and encouragement I have received at all times from the members of the Public Health and Housing Committee.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

N. E. CHADWICK,

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS 1960

Population : 15,720.

DEATHS :	Total	M	F
	161	90	71

Death Rate : 10.24 (Standard).
11.26 (Corrected).

Deaths from :

Measles (all ages)	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages) ..	Nil
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ..	Nil
Pneumonia	10
Cancer (all forms)	25

	Total	M	F
Live Births	246	133	113

Live Birth rate per 1000 population .. 15.64 (Standard)
16.42 (Corrected)

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births : 6.91%

Stillbirths	4	2	2

Rate per 1000 Total live and stillbirths : 16.00

Total Live and Still Births ..	250	135	115
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	4	3	1

Infant Mortality rate per 1000 live births 16.26

Infant Mortality Rates :

Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births ..	16.26
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 Legitimate live births	17.46
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 Illegitimate live births	—
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births)	16.26
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)	16.26
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and still-births)	32.00

Maternal Mortality (inclusive abortion) :

Number of deaths	1
Rate per 1000 total live and still-births	4.00

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

DRAINAGE.

The whole of the public roads in the district are sewered by gravitation on the water carriage system.

All houses in the District are connected to the public sewers with the following exceptions :

There are 10 houses served by cesspools, of these cesspools 4 do not, as regards the statutory distance, come within the requirements of the Act. During the year 6 houses were connected to the Public Sewer and the cesspools filled in.

In addition there are 2 houses, situate in outlying parts of the District, provided with earth closets.

All sewerage is discharged into intercepting sewers which are under the control of the Portslade and Southwick Outfall Sewerage Board. Disposal is by means of Sea Outfall owned by the Board.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR. The Public Health Inspector has prepared the following Annual Statement of his visits and notices :

Houses inspected for housing defects ..	502
Number of inspections made for the purpose.	1115
Houses inspected under Public Health Acts ..	430
Number of inspections made for that purpose	871
Number of complaints received.	227
Informal Notices served (P.H. & H. Act) ..	55
Statutory Notices served	11
Houses found dirty or verminous ..	12
Houses with insufficient refuse bin ..	10

Defective and Choked Drains	211
Defective Closets	22
Defective Sinks	5
Defective Roofs and Gutters	93
Damp Walls and Ceilings	156
Defective Walls and Ceilings	149
Defective Floors	47
Defects to Windows, Doors, etc.	86
Defects to Grates	19
Defects to Chimneys	46
Defective Paving	6

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The destruction of rats and mice has been successfully continued throughout the year, both in surface properties and in the Council's sewers.

During the year 169 infestations were dealt with on surface properties and two sewer treatments carried out.

The treatment is free to private properties but a small charge is made for business premises.

Eradication of Vermin.

During the year 12 houses were found to be in a dirty or verminous condition and of these, 5 were disinfested by spraying with insecticides.

This work has been carried out by the Council and the cost of materials has been charged to the Owner or Occupier.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED AT 31st DECEMBER, 1960.

Council Houses and Flats	791
Old Peoples Bungalows	33
Old Peoples Flats	40

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES.

1. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year* :

(1)	(*a*)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	502
	(*b*)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	1115
(2)	(*a*)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	65
	(*b*)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	73
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	9
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	133

2. *Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 78

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

There is only 1 Farm in the District which is supplying Tuberculin Tested Milk.

During the year there were 57 Dealers' Licences and 11 Supplementary Licences issued for the sale of designated Milk in this District.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16.

There are 71 premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream and 7 premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, pickled or preserved food.

There were 18 inspections of registered premises throughout the year.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

During the year 18 inspections of food premises were made and in 8 of them infringements of the Regulations were found.

Notices were served in respect of the following items :—

Provision of First Aid Materials	3
Provision of Hot Water Supply	3
Provision of Wash Hand Basin	1
Display of Notices requiring persons to wash their hands after using sanitary convenience ..	3
Provision of towels, soap, etc.	2
Walls, ceilings, etc., requiring repair or decoration	1
Provision of Locker for Clothes	1

Meat and Food Inspection.

There are no slaughterhouses in the District and most of the home killed meat is brought in from Brighton Abattoir.

No butchers meat was condemned during the year as unfit for human consumption.

The following foodstuffs were inspected and found to be unfit for human consumption :—

3 stones of fish.

5½ doz. bottles of orange cordial.

18 casks of beer.

113 doz. bottles of mineral water.

17 doz. bottles of cider.

12 siphons of soda water.

102 bottles of wines and spirits.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948.

Part 1 of the Act.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspect'ns	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	21	5	*Nil*	*Nil*
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	60	36	1	*Nil*
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers Premises)	10	4	*Nil*	*Nil*
Total ..	91	45	1	*Nil*

SLUM CLEARANCE.

Housing Act 1957, Section 16.

Premises dealt with during year 1960:

No. 14 George Street—Demolition Order.

Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	1	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	3	3	—	1	—

TUBERCULOSIS 1960.

	New Cases				Inward Transfers				Deaths				Other Removals				Cases on Register				
	Pul.		Non. Pul.		Pul.		Non. Pul.		Pul.		Non. Pul.		Pul.		Non. Pul.		Pul.		Non. Pul.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Totals
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	2	—	5
20—25	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	7	3	2	2	14
25—35	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	12	14	2	2	30
35—45	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	16	13	3	1	33
45—65	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	31	10	1	—	42
Over 65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	2	—	2	13
Totals	2	3	1	—	3	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	4	—	—	77	45	10	7	139

INFECTIOUS DISEASE - 1960

DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.
Scarlet Fever	48
Whooping Cough	3
Measles	19
Dysentery	12
Pneumonia	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	4
Food Poisoning	2
Erysipelas	1

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Number of children in the Local Health Authority area on 31st December, 1960, who have completed a course of diphtheria immunisation at any time between 1st January, 1946 and 31st December, 1960.

Age on 31-12-60 *i.e.*, Born in Year	Under 1 1960	1—4 1956-1959	5—9 1951-1955	10—14 1946-1950	Under 15 Total
A. Number of children whose last course (primary or booster)was completed in the period 1956/1960.	61	583	659	504	1807
B. Number of children whose last course (primary or booster) was completed in 1955 or earlier.	—	—	128	709	837

Number of Children who completed a full course of primary immunisation during 1960.

Aged Under 5 yrs.	Aged 5—14 yrs.	Total
250	70	275

COMBINED DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION, YEAR 1960

Age at date of final injection	0—4 yrs.	4—14 yrs.	Total
.. ..	150	21	171

VACCINATION ANNUAL RETURN FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1960.

Number of Persons Vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) during Period.

Age at Date of Vaccination	Under 1	1	2 to 4	5 to 14	15 and over	Total
Number Vaccinated	475	19	12	13	78	597
Number Re-Vaccinated ..	—	—	10	65	349	424

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION
1960

Class	Number of persons vaccinated during 1960 with			No. of applicants awaiting 1st injection at end of 1960
	1st injection	2nd injection	3rd injection	
Children born in years 1943 to 1960	308	300	—	20
Young Persons born in years 1933 to 1942 ..	70	68	—	10
Persons born before 1933 who have not passed their 40th birthday	294	247	—	12
Others	22	20	—	—
Totals	694	635	1080	42

Total number of persons who since the inception of the scheme had received three injections at 31st December, 1960 :

3,249